

R U N  
are you in?

**LifeGroups**  
get connected.

# TRANSFORMATION

*"And we... are being transformed into His likeness."*

**2 Corinthians 3:18**

## CHETS TOP 5

Easter  
Eggstravaganza  
April 3rd • 9:30 a.m. - Noon  
Easter Worship  
Times  
April 4th  
8:30, 9:45 & 11:15 a.m. -  
Main Campus  
9:45 & 11:15 a.m. -  
Chets Creek Elementary

Night of Worship &  
Lord's Supper  
March 31st • 7:00 p.m.

C.L.A.S.S.  
101 - 401  
March 28th  
5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

"Letters to God"  
Movie Tickets  
April 11th

"So Long,  
Insecurity"  
Simulcast with  
Beth Moore  
April 24th  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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**Volume XI No. 12**

## Discussion Guide

### Life Sentences - "Solomon"

**FOCUS: to examine the life of Solomon and be challenged to make wise choices, always staying prepared for his/her final day.**

*"If only they were wise and would understand this and discern what their end will be!"*

**Deuteronomy 32:29**

- Solomon, David's son, had been selected to take over David's position. What was Solomon's request from God as he assumed this position? (1 Kings 3:4-9)
- How often do you pray for wisdom when you have a difficult decision to make?
- How did God respond to Solomon? (1 Kings 3:10-13; 4:29)
- What would be the condition of Solomon claiming these promises of God? (1 Kings 3:14)
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- How did Solomon violate God's commands in the following verses?
  - (1 Kings 3:1; 11:1-3; Ex. 23:31-33)
  - (1 Kings 3:2-3; 11:5-8; Lev. 17:3-5)
  - (1 Kings 4:25; 10:26; Deut. 17:16)
  - (1 Kings 11:6; Deut. 17:18-20)
- How are these same things violated in our society?
  - In your life?
- Solomon had accumulated vast riches and power but he still wrote the Book of Ecclesiastes which uses the word "vanity" 38 times. Read (Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:17) and record Solomon's thoughts.
- What are you putting your trust in? What are you banking on to carry you through to the end?
- What do the following verses demonstrate about Solomon's wisdom in the end? (Ecclesiastes 12:1, 6-7, 13-14)
- What do you need to change this week to re-prioritize your life?

## Read Thru the Bible

*"How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey. Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life. Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path."*

Psalm 119:103-105

<u>March/April</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Proverbs</u>
28	Numbers 31:1-54	Luke 2:39-52	37:34-40	9:7-9
29	Numbers 32:1-42	Luke 3:1-20	38:1-8	9:10-12
30	Numbers 33:1-56	Luke 3:21-38	38:9-14	9:13-15
31	Numbers 34:1-35:34	Luke 4:1-21	38:15-22	9:16-18
1	Numbers 36:1-Deut.1:46	Luke 4:22-44	39:1-6	10:1-2
2	Deuteronomy 2:1-3:29	Luke 5:1-20	39:7-13	10:3-5
3	Deuteronomy 4:1-49	Luke 5:21-6:11	40:1-5	10:6-8
4	Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25	Luke 6:12-36	40:6-10	10:9-11
5	Deuteronomy 7:1-8:20	Luke 6:37-7:10	40:11-17	10:12-14

### LifeGroup Prayer Requests:

*"You are not responsible for everyone in the church family - but you are responsible to them. So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind."*

1 Thessalonians 5:11

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## LOOKING TOWARD NEXT SUNDAY

### Jonathan - Proverbs 17:17

*To examine David and Jonathan's friendship and be challenged to apply their characteristics of friendship with his/her friends and in their relationship to the Lord.*

### MONDAY - MARCH 29, 2010

#### Read 1 Chronicles 8:33; 1 Samuel 14:6-14: Who Was Jonathan?

*33 Ner was the father of Kish, Kish the father of Saul, and Saul the father of Jonathan, Malki-Shua, Abinadab and Esh-Baal.*

*6 Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, "Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised fellows. Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few." 7 "Do all that you have in mind," his armor-bearer said. "Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul." 8 Jonathan said, "Come, then; we will cross over toward the men and let them see us. 9 If they say to us, 'Wait there until we come to you,' we will stay where we are and not go up to them. 10 But if they say, 'Come up to us,' we will climb up, because that will be our sign that the LORD has given them into our hands." 11 So both of them showed themselves to the Philistine outpost. "Look!" said the Philistines. "The Hebrews are crawling out of the holes they were hiding in." (not all verses printed due to room)*

- Who was Jonathan's father? Assuming sons are listed in birth order, where does Jonathan stand among his father's sons? Jonathan was the firstborn son of Saul and, therefore, heir to the throne of Israel.
- How do you see Jonathan's raid on the Philistine outpost?  
Courageous? Long shot? Extreme presumption? Expectant faith?
- Why do you think that Jonathan felt confident of God's blessing?
- From God's perspective, why were Jonathan's actions wise?

## TUESDAY - MARCH 30, 2010

### Read 1 Samuel 18:1-2; 2 Samuel 1:17-27: A Friend Loves

1 After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself. 2 From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father's house.

17 David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan, 18 and ordered that the men of Judah be taught this lament of the bow (it is written in the Book of Jashar): 19 "Your glory, O Israel, lies slain on your heights. How the mighty have fallen! 20 "Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon, lest the daughters of the Philistines be glad, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised rejoice. 21 "O mountains of Gilboa, may you have neither dew nor rain, nor fields that yield offerings of grain. For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul—no longer rubbed with oil. 22 From the blood of the slain, from the flesh of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, the sword of Saul did not return unsatisfied. 23 "Saul and Jonathan— in life they were loved and gracious, and in death they were not parted. They were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions. 24 "O daughters of Israel, weep for Saul, who clothed you in scarlet and finery, who adorned your garments with ornaments of gold. 25 "How the mighty have fallen in battle! Jonathan lies slain on your heights. 26 I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women. 27 "How the mighty have fallen! The weapons of war have perished!"

- How does the Bible describe the bond between David and Jonathan? What does it mean to be "one in spirit?"
- What would be evidence that two men who were "one in spirit?"
- In his lament recorded in 2 Samuel 1, how did David express his personal grief over Jonathan's death?
- Do you share this kind of friendship with someone? What could you do this week to cultivate such a friendship?

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## WEDNESDAY - MARCH 31, 2010

### Read 1 Samuel 18:3-4; 20:12-17, 42: A Covenant Friendship

3 And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. 4 Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.

12 Then Jonathan said to David: "By the LORD, the God of Israel, I will surely sound out my father by this time the day after tomorrow! If he is favorably disposed toward you, will I not send you word and let you know? 13 But if my father is inclined to harm you, may the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if I do not let you know and send you away safely. May the LORD be with you as he has been with my father. 14 But show me unfailing kindness like that of the LORD as long as I live, so that I may not be killed, 15 and do not ever cut off your kindness from my family—not even when the LORD has cut off every one of David's enemies from the face of the earth." 16 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "May the LORD call David's enemies to account." 17 And Jonathan had David reaffirm his oath out of love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself.

- How did Jonathan seal his covenant with David?
- What token of lasting friendship could you offer a friend this week?
- In 1 Samuel 20, what did Jonathan promise? What did David promise?
- What do these verses tell us about the Jonathan and David kind of friendship? When have you experienced such a covenant bond?

## THURSDAY - APRIL 1, 2010

### Read 1 Samuel 23:15-16; Proverbs 17:17: Encourage Your Friend

*15 While David was at Horesh in the Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul had come out to take his life. 16 And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.*

*17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.*

- What was accomplished when David and Jonathan met in secret?
- How can you help a friend “find strength in God?”
- What does a friend always do?
- In Proverbs 17:17, what do you think that the word “brother” means? Is a brother simply a sibling?
- Do you have a friend who needs your encouragement today?

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## FRIDAY - APRIL 2, 2010

### Read 2 Samuel 21:12-14: Honor Your Friend

*12 he went and took the bones of Saul and his son Jonathan from the citizens of Jabesh Gilead. (They had taken them secretly from the public square at Beth Shan, where the Philistines had hung them after they struck Saul down on Gilboa.) 13 David brought the bones of Saul and his son Jonathan from there, and the bones of those who had been killed and exposed were gathered up. 14 They buried the bones of Saul and his son Jonathan in the tomb of Saul's father Kish, at Zela in Benjamin, and did everything the king commanded. After that, God answered prayer in behalf of the land.*

- How did David honor the memory of Saul and Jonathan?
- How did God respond to David's actions to honor Saul and Jonathan?
- What gesture of honor and respect do you need to do today to heal a damaged friendship?